

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested. Entry of this Amendment under Rule 116 is merited as it raises no new issues and requires no further search.

The Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter noted with appreciation.

Claims 1-58 are pending in the application. Claim 59 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. The indicated allowable subject matter of claim 59 is now included in independent claim 44. Independent claim 1 has also been amended to include allowable claim 59. Allowable claim 58 has been rewritten in independent form without otherwise touching the merits. No new matter has been introduced through the foregoing amendments.

All elected claims are believed in allowable form in view of the above amendments.

The non-elected claims depend on allowable independent claims 1 and 44, and should be rejoined, considered and allowed as well.

Accordingly, all claims in the present application are now in condition for allowance. Early and favorable indication of allowance is courteously solicited.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned, Applicant's attorney of record, to facilitate advancement of the present application.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under *37 C.F.R. 1.136* is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 07-1337 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Serial No. 10/563,287

Respectfully submitted,

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